

Egretta thula* (Snowy Egret)*Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** Aves (Birds)**Order:** *Pelecaniformes* (Peleicans, Herons, Ibises, And Allies)**Family:** *Ardeidae* (Bitterns, Egrets, Herons, And Night-herons)**General comments:**

First documented breeding in 1961 (2 pairs on Appledore Island). Since 1975, 100-200 nesting pairs on approximately 10 islands, NH/ME border to Penobscot Bay.

Species Conservation Range Maps for Snowy Egret:Town Map: [Egretta thula Towns.pdf](#)Subwatershed Map: [Egretta thula HUC12.pdf](#)**SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation:** NA**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:** NA**Recent Significant Declines:** NA**Regional Endemic:** NA**High Regional Conservation Priority:**

North American Waterbird Conservation Plan:

High Concern

United States Birds of Conservation Concern:

Bird of Conservation Concern in Bird Conservation Regions 14 and/or 30: Yes

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA**Understudied rare taxa:** NA**Historical:** NA**Culturally Significant:** NA**Range Expansion:**

Range Expansion: Snowy Egret is a species with a recent range expansion. Priority 1 designation is not intended for species who have expanded their range into Maine within the past 50 years. Notes: 1975

Habitats Assigned to Snowy Egret:

Formation Name	Boreal Upland Forest
Macrogroup Name	Boreal Upland Forest
Habitat System Name:	Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest Notes: <i>Nesting colonies.</i>
Formation Name	Cliff & Rock
Macrogroup Name	Rocky Coast
Habitat System Name:	North Atlantic Cobble Shore Notes: <i>Foraging area.</i>
Formation Name	Coastal Scrub-Herb
Macrogroup Name	Coastal Grassland & Shrubland
Habitat System Name:	Coastal Grassland & Shrubland Macrogroup - Unknown Habitat System Notes: <i>Shrubby areas on islands for nesting.</i>
Formation Name	Freshwater Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Coastal Plain Pond
Habitat System Name:	Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Pond Notes: <i>May nest in shrubs on edges; forage in wetland.</i>

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No Stressors Currently Assigned to Snowy Egret or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Snowy Egret:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Snowy Egret or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Guild Level Conservation Actions:

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This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.